Amended Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for facilitating the telecommunication equipment ordering process, ~~the~~said method comprising:

creating a telecommunication equipment order record including a telecommunication equipment order number, a project number, equipment data, accounting data, schedule data, supplier data and shipping data, wherein ~~the~~said creating includes populating ~~the~~said order record in response to input from a creator;

transmitting ~~the~~said accounting data to an accounting system for verification of ~~the~~said accounting data;

receiving a verification status from ~~the~~said accounting system, wherein ~~the~~said verification status is positive if ~~the~~said accounting data is located in ~~the~~said accounting system, and ~~the~~said verification status is negative if ~~the~~said accounting data is not located in ~~the~~said accounting system;

releasing ~~the~~said order record into an order database accessible by users in response to ~~the~~said verification status being positive and to a request from ~~the~~said creator;

updating ~~the~~said order record in response to ~~the~~said verification status being negative and to input from ~~the~~said creator; and

resubmitting ~~the~~said order record to ~~the~~said accounting system in response to ~~the~~said updating.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein ~~the~~said creating further includes copying an existing order record.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2 wherein ~~the~~said existing order record is a template.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein ~~the~~said order record is a template.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein ~~the~~said accounting data includes a work identification and asset category code.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein ~~the~~said accounting data includes a geographic location code and a common language location identifier.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein:

~~the~~said supplier data includes a supplier code.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7 wherein ~~the~~said method further comprises adding a new supplier code to a supplier code table.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7 further comprising searching for ~~the~~said supplier code in a supplier code table and notifying ~~the~~said creator if ~~the~~said supplier code is not located in ~~the~~said supplier code table.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein ~~the~~said verification of ~~the~~said accounting data is performed during data entry of ~~the~~said accounting data by ~~the~~said creator.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein ~~the~~said accounting data includes a geographic location code and one or more common language location identifiers associated with ~~the~~said geographic location code.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising validating ~~the~~said equipment data against a standard equipment configuration.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12 wherein ~~the~~said standard equipment configuration is accessed via a configuration application system.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein:

~~the~~said equipment data includes equipment type;

~~the~~said accounting data includes geographic location code, common language location identifier, and a work identification and asset category code;

~~the~~said schedule data includes order due date, ship date, start date, advance date, complete date, service date, building ready date, retire date and remove date;

~~the~~said supplier data includes supplier code, supplier contact and supplier contract number;

~~the~~said shipping data includes ship to code, papers to code, bill to code, consolidated order, shipping method, ship with special authority and package marking; and

~~the~~said order record further includes a completion notice code, an advance location common language location identifier code, an advance note, a location note and an order description.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

creating a project record corresponding to ~~the~~said project number, ~~the~~said project record including ~~the~~said project number and project accounting data;

transmitting ~~the~~said project accounting data to ~~the~~said accounting system for verification of ~~the~~said project accounting data;

receiving a verification status from ~~the~~said accounting system, wherein ~~the~~said

verification status is positive if thesaid project accounting data is located in thesaid accounting system, and thesaid verification status is negative if thesaid project accounting data is not located in thesaid accounting system;

releasing thesaid project record into an order database accessible by users in response to thesaid verification status being positive and to a request from thesaid creator;

updating thesaid project record in response to thesaid verification status being negative and to input from thesaid creator; and

resubmitting thesaid project record to thesaid accounting system in response to thesaid updating.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15 wherein thesaid creating further includes copying thesaid project record from an existing project record.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15 wherein thesaid project record includes an authorization number input by thesaid creator.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15 wherein thesaid project accounting data includes geographic location code, common language location identifier and a work identification and asset category code; and thesaid project record further includes project type, contact, OC code, authorization number, project description, advance date, and complete date.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein thesaid order record corresponds to one or more detail records, wherein each of thesaid detail records includes thesaid project number, thesaid order number, a vendor code, detail accounting data, item data, major material cost data, telephone company engineering dollars data, vendor engineering dollars data, vendor installation dollars data and vendor minor material dollars data.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

receiving input parameters from a report requestor;

creating a report responsive to ~~the~~said input parameters and to data included in ~~the~~said order database; and

transmitting ~~the~~said report to ~~the~~said report requestor.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20 wherein ~~the~~said report includes ~~the~~said accounting data.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20 wherein ~~the~~said report includes ~~the~~said schedule data.

23. (Withdrawn) A system for facilitating the telecommunication equipment ordering process, the system comprising:

a network;

a storage device in communication with said network, wherein said storage device includes an order database;

a user system in communication with said network; and

a host system in communication with said network, said host system including application software to implement a method comprising:

creating a telecommunication equipment order record including a telecommunication equipment order number, a project number, equipment data, accounting data, schedule data, supplier data and shipping data, wherein said creating includes populating said order record in response to input from a creator via said user system;

transmitting said accounting data via said network to an accounting system

for verification of said accounting data;

receiving a verification status from said accounting system via said network, wherein said verification status is positive if said accounting data is located in said accounting system, and said verification status is negative if said accounting data is not located in said accounting system;

releasing said order record into said order database accessible by users in response to said verification status being positive and to a request from said creator;

updating said order record in response to said verification status being negative and to input from said creator; and

resubmitting said order record to said accounting system in response to said updating.

24. (Withdrawn)   The system of claim 23 wherein said network is the Internet.

25. (Withdrawn)   The system of claim 23 wherein said network in an intranet.

26. (Withdrawn)   The system of claim 23 wherein said order database is a relational database.

27. (Withdrawn)   A computer program product for facilitating the telecommunication equipment ordering process, the computer program product comprising:

a storage medium readable by a processing circuit and storing instructions for execution by the processing circuit for facilitating a method comprising:

creating a telecommunication equipment order record including a telecommunication equipment order number, a project number, equipment data, accounting data, schedule data, supplier data and shipping data, wherein said creating includes populating said order record in response to input from a creator;

transmitting said accounting data to an accounting system for verification of said accounting data;

receiving a verification status from said accounting system, wherein said verification status is positive if said accounting data is located in said accounting system, and said verification status is negative if said accounting data is not located in said accounting system;

releasing said order record into an order database accessible by users in response to said verification status being positive and to a request from said creator;

updating said order record in response to said verification status being negative and to input from said creator; and

resubmitting said order record to said accounting system in response to said updating.